

**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Katsunori KAWANO et al.

Group Art Unit: 2872

Application No.: 10/782,903

Examiner: A. AMARI

Filed: February 23, 2004

Docket No.: 118796

For: HOLOGRAM RECORDING METHOD AND HOLOGRAM RECORDING  
APPARATUS

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

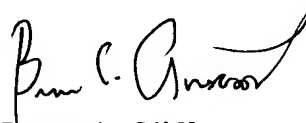
In reply to the February 13, 2007 Restriction Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Group I (claims 1-18) drawn to a hologram recording method, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. For example, a thorough search for the elected hologram recording method should include a search of a hologram recording apparatus (Group II claims). Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted

that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested. Early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 5, 2007

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